

Wichita-Sedgwick County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Meeting

MAPC Large Conference Room, 10th Floor, City Hall

3:45-5:30 p.m., July 23, 2014

Discussion Highlights & Points of Agreement:

Attendance - Plan Steering Committee:

Stacy Christie, Mitch Coffman, David Foster, Joe Johnson, John McKay, Cindy Miles, Randy Oliver, James Roseboro, Debra Miller Stevens, Kurt Yowell

Attendance - Project Staff:

Stephen Banks, Dave Barber, Scott Knebel, John Schlegel, Scott Wadle

1. Welcome -

The meeting was called to order by Dave Barber in the absence of Peggy Elliott. Barber advised that Peggy has submitted her resignation from the Steering Committee in order to devote more time to her ministerial pursuits.

2. 2014-2023 Wichita Capital Improvement Program Update & It's Relationship to the Community Investments Plan -

Mark Manning from the City Finance Dept. advised the Committee that a draft 2014-2023 capital improvement plan (CIP) for the City will likely be completed for review later this fall. Manning explained that the draft CIP will reflect a new prioritization model that centers on the City Council's strategic priorities. These priorities reflect such principles as maintenance over expansion; leveraging outside funding sources; and, city core areas over suburbs.

Manning and the Committee agreed that it would be beneficial if the new comprehensive plan were fiscally constrained – the listing and prioritization of future infrastructure investments in the plan needs to reflect future revenue and income forecasts over the life of the plan. Stronger plan policy guidance regarding future investment priorities would help to eliminate the frequent shifting of project priorities prevalent in previous CIP's.

3. Review Community Engagement Feedback to Assess Major 'Takeaways' for Developing the Plan -

Dave Barber asked each Committee member in attendance to provide their two most important "takeaways" from the community engagement feedback received over the last three months, as the Committee now begins the process of determining the key elements of 2035 vision statement for the new plan. The responses of each Committee member were recorded on a flip chart for future reference (responses are listed at the end of this meeting summary).

4. Review Kansas Basic Comprehensive Plan Elements; Discuss Staff and Committee's Working Relationship in Developing the Plan -

John Schlegel provided an overview of the statutory requirements of a comprehensive plan along with staff's assessment of how the current comprehensive plan has met these requirements, and, how the new community investment plan might better meet these requirements. Staff and Committee members discussed how they can work most effectively together as we move into the actual plan development phase over the next 5 months. The Committee suggested that staff bring a suggested process/approach for consideration at the next Committee meeting scheduled for August 6th.

5. Alternate 2035 Population and Employment Growth Rates for Discussion Purposes -

In response to the Committee's recent thinking that a more robust employment and population growth rate (greater than the current baseline projection of approx. 1%) is needed to help address the future infrastructure needs and wants of our community, Stephen Banks presented a matrix containing a number of alternate accelerated population and employment growth rates. Following a

discussion about how realistic it would be to achieve some of these alternate growth rates given the cyclical nature of our local economy, the Committee decided that the best approach would be to establish a growth rate range – the low end growth rate would be our current baseline projection of approx. 1%, but also included would be a more optimistic/realistic higher growth rate (yet to be determined) that represents what our community wishes to strive for over the next 20 years. Further discussion on this will occur at the next Committee meeting.

The Committee also requested staff to provide an approximation of the amount of funds and the ratio of local, state and federal funds that have been spent in developing the Kellogg freeway system over the last couple of decades.

6. Proposed Committee Meeting Dates thru 2014 -

The Committee agreed to hold future meetings on the following dates thru the end of this year (meeting times will be adjusted to start at 4:00 p.m. and run until 6:00 p.m.):

August 6, 20; September 3, 17; October 8, 22; November 5, 19; December 3, 17

7. Comments from Public Attendees - None

8. Adjourned – 5:30 p.m.

**Plan Steering Committee Members:
Major Takeaways from Feedback Received from the April-June Community Engagement
Initiatives**

Listed below are each Steering Committee member's top two 'takeaways' from the community engagement feedback received from the open house meetings (April 2014) and the community discussion meeting (May-June 2014):

- Secure a long-term water supply for our community (*Randy Oliver*)
- Maintain our existing infrastructure (*Randy Oliver*)

- Center the plan around people and neighborhoods (*David Foster*)
- Quality of life should be carefully considered in the plan (*David Foster*)

- Focus on the urban core rather than expanding at the edges (*Debra Miller Stevens*)
- Enrich what we currently have (*Debra Miller Stevens*)

- Plan needs to address the gap in funding in order to maintain our existing infrastructure (*Joe Johnson*)
- Focus growth within the urban core and downtown (*Joe Johnson*)

- Top priority in the plan needs to be maintenance of existing infrastructure (*Mitch Coffman*)
- Focus on quality of life - enhancing what we have (*Mitch Coffman*)

- Expanding infrastructure compounds the difficulty we have of maintaining our existing infrastructure (*Cindy Miles*)
- Quality of life is a priority for young generations of our community (*Cindy Miles*)

- Connectivity and walkability is key to creating vibrant neighborhoods - expanding public transit needs to be a priority (*Stacy Christie*)
- Focus on getting the best bang for the investment buck - priorities should be given to multi-purpose and multiple impact investments (*Stacy Christie*)

- Secure a long-term water supply for our community (*James Roseboro*)
- Take care of the urban core area before expanding our community at the edges - sustain what we have (*James Roseboro*)

- Need to invest in the downtown, the urban core and suburban expansion if we are to be successful as a community (*John McKay*)
- Need to maintain a high quality of life, amenities and basic services in our community (*John McKay*)

- It is critical to take care of what we currently have (*Kurt Yowell*)
- Maintaining low congestion and crime is a priority (*Kurt Yowell*)